

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9547

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USNMR SHAPE

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USLOSACLANT

USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0136

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: NATO, PINR

SUBJ: EXCHANGE OF POLITICAL ASSESSMENTS OVER THE NATO-WIDE NETWORK

REF: A. USNATO 6673 B. STATE 265806

C. CM 71/1, DATED 17 FEB. 1971

1. MISSION RECENTLY ANALYZED USE OF NATO ASSESSMENT SERIES FOR THE DISSEMINATION OF POLITICAL/ECONOMIC INFORMATION. TOTAL OF 201 SUBMISSIONS, REPORTING ON 328 DIFFERENT ITEMS WERE CONTRIBUTED TO SYSTEM DURING CALENDAR YEAR 1974. ONLY SEVEN ALLIES CONTRIBUTED AS FOLLOWS:

CANADA --40 SUBMISSIONS WITH 68 ITEMS,
DENMARK -- ONE SUBMISSION WITH ONE ITEM,
FRG -- EIGHT SUBMISSIONS WITH NINE ITEMS,
ITALY -- 16 SUBMISSIONS WITH 25 ITEMS,
NETHERLANDS -- ONE SUBMISSION WITH ONE ITEM,
UK -- 26 SUBMISSIONS WITH 32 ITEMS,
US -- 105 SUBMISSIONS WITH 188 ITEMS,
NATO COMMANDS -- FOUR SUBMISSIONS WITH FOUR ITEMS.
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2. BREAKDOWN OF FOUR PRIME CONTRIBUTORS -- CANADA, ITALY, UK AND US -- BY GENERAL SUBJECT OF ITEM IS AS FOLLOWS:

	MILITARY	POLITICAL	ECONOMIC
CANADA	2	43	23

ITALY	2	23	0
UK	9	21	2
US	154	29	5

3. US ASSESSMENTS TENDED TO CONCENTRATE ON THE SOVIET UNION /WARSAW PACT AREA; ONLY 12 ITEMS COVERED OTHER AREAS. ITALY CONCENTRATED ON MIDDLE EAST AND BALKANS. BOTH CANADA AND UK COMMENTED NOT ONLY ON SOVIET/WP MATTERS BUT ALSO ON AREAS OUTSIDE THE EAST-WEST CONTEXT.

4. COMMENT: MISSION BELIEVES THAT WHILE US CONTRIBUTION IS MORE THAN RESPECTABLE, ESPECIALLY FOR DIA-GENERATED ITEMS ON MILITARY AND POL-MIL SUBJECTS, WE COULD STILL IMPROVE OUR INPUT INTO NATO ASSESSMENT SERIES BY EXPANDING OUR CONTRIBUTION OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ANALYSES. FOR EXAMPLE, CANADA SUBMITTED SEVERAL ITEMS ON EVENTS IN LATIN AMERICA. WHILE WE HERE CANNOT JUDGE VALUE OF THESE PARTICULAR ASSESSMENTS, WE SUSPECT THOSE ALLIES WHO DO NOT HAVE SAME RESOURCES IN WESTERN HEMISPHERE AS DO CANADA OR US APPRECIATED RECEIVING THEM. AS DEPARTMENT HAS SAID (REF B), PRIMARY VALUE OF US CONTRIBUTION IS TO PROVIDE ALLIES WITH US VIEWS, ANALYSIS AND OPINION AS ONE FACET OF THE CONSULTATION PROCESS. SINCE US ALSO BELIEVES CONSULTATIONS SHOULD INCLUDE AREAS OUTSIDE EAST-WEST CONTEXT, MISSION BELIEVES WE SHOULD CONTRIBUTE MORE ASSESSMENTS ON OTHER AREAS, SUCH AS MIDDLE EAST, INDIAN OCEAN, PRC OR JAPAN IN EXPANDING CONTRIBUTION OF ASSESSMENTS. BRUCE

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